As suitable candidates were not available, Secretary, North Eastern Council was entrusted the additional charge of Chairman, Brahmaputra Board with the approval of the Cabinet. Since the transfer of the incumbent holding the post of Secretary, North Eastern Council in January, 1993, the Vice Chairman of Brahmaputra Board is exercising and discharging the duties of Chairman, Bhahmputra Board.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Brahmaputra Board is functioning effectively and does not need to be reconstituted.

Flood control in Assam

6189. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any priority towards flood control in Assam and adjoining areas keeping in view the horrible situation arising from floods every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof with programmes drawn up and financial outlay fixed for the current year; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) The Union Government have given priority towards flood control in Assam and adjoining areas by setting up the Brahmaputra Board in December, 1981 which has prepared Master Plans for flood management in respect of the Brahmaputra, Barak and its tributaries. These Master Plans have been sent to Assam and other North Eastern States and Central agencies for taking further steps leading to implementation. In addition to the outlay of Rs. 20.00 crore from the State's plan funds, Central Loan Assistance to the tune of Rs. 25 crore is envisaged for release to Assam for flood control during the current financial year.

(c) Does not arise.

Pending proposals of Brahmaputra Flood Control Board

6190. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain proposals submitted by the Brahmaputra Flood Control Board long back are still pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details of these proposals with the date of submission in each case;

(c) whether Government propose to take some steps to clear the pending proposals for smooth development of the concerned regions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Study by National Water Development Agency on Water Resources

6191. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Water Development Agency was to undertake studies on water transfer links for water resources development in the country;

(b) if so, when was this Agency set up and with what aims and objectives;

(c) whether the Agency has completed the work assigned to it and if so, the details thereof; and